

2014 Silver City Ranger District Trails Update

Partners and volunteers are vital to the sustainability of trails in the Gila National Forest. Nearly 40 miles of trail were maintained by volunteers and partners in 2014. An "Adopt-A-Trail" Program was established for the Silver City Ranger District which resulted in approximately 14 volunteers and partners providing basic maintenance, inspections, and feedback to district trails staff on 11 trails, including five segments of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST).

The Continental Divide Trail is a congressionally designated National Scenic Trail. "National Scenic Trail" is a classification given to a trail route intended to provide access to spectacular natural beauty and to allow the pursuit of healthy outdoor recreation. These objectives demand that construction activities leave as little impact and damage to the original natural environment as is possible. Where impacts are unavoidable, steps are taken to reduce and blend evidence of construction activities into the landscape.



CDNST northeast of Bear Mtn

April was established as Grant County Trail's month. Recreation staff partnered with the Grant County Trails Group and the CDNST Coalition to plan the Wounded Warrior Hike on the trail through Silver City. The Gila National Forest also partnered and assisted these groups and the town of Silver City in designating Silver City as the first Gateway Community for the CDNST.



Wounded Warriors at Gateway
Community Event



Rocky Mountain Youth Corp Field Training
Session at Pinon Loop, Gomez Peak/Little
Walnut Trail System

Training on trail structures and drainage features was put on by the Rocky Mountain Youth Corp for the Wellness Coalition YCC and interested volunteers. The training incorporated classroom and field exercises on San Vicente Trail in Silver City and Pinon Loop at the Little Walnut/Gomez Peak trail system.